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It would seem that the United States and Great Britain ought to offer mediation to prevent further destruction of life and property.

### CALLING EVIL GOOD.

Nothing is better calculated to disgust men with religion than using it as a cloak of vice and immorality. In January last a great brandy distillery near Kazan, Russia, was opened with services conducted by the clergy of the locality.

So many theatres thinly and attractively veil profanity, obscenity and lust; so many drunkard-making hotels set off their bars with beautiful colors and divert the consciences of their customers with entrancing music; so many moral ante-chambers to brothels excite passion by nude and libidinous paintings, and other works of art; so many so-called churches cultivate the spirit of gambling by appealing to chance and covetousness in their fairs and sales; and all of this is so unrebuked and so successful, that the temptation to hypocrisy for the sake of gain has become well nigh universal.

### ITALY IN 1873 AND 1891.

In the month of December, 1873, Secretary J. B. Miles of the American Peace Society was in Rome. We have been permitted to read a letter written at the time in which he gave this interesting information.

"The Italian Chamber of Deputies on Monday, November 24, 1873, passed *unanimously and by a rising vote*, a motion in favor of arbitration and the settlement of the difficulties of nations by peaceful means. I had the pleasure of occupying in company with Henry Richard, Prof. Pierantoni and David Dudley Field, a seat in the Tribune of the Assembly-Room on the memorable afternoon upon which this noble action was taken. Would that I could describe the scene upon which I looked, or express the emotions which the spectacle awakened. The motion was introduced by Hon. Signor P. S. Mancini, one of the ablest and most noted members of the Chamber, and, indeed, one of the ablest and noblest men in all Italy.

"The brief speech with which he followed the introduction of his motion upon arbitration was very eloquent and was listened to with the closest and most sympathetic attention. At the conclusion of Signor Mancini's speech, Signor Visconti Venasta, Minister of Foreign Affairs, promptly arose, and in a short and elegant address expressed his hearty approval of the measure. He declared it to be the desire of the Italian Government to see peace reign in the world, and to see those rights on which the Italian nation is founded, spread their influence to other countries.

"All honor to the distinguished patriot and statesman, Mancini, and to the Italian Government for this glorious example which we trust will speedily be followed by the American Congress and by all the governments of Christendom."

### PEACE BY TARIFFS.

The two opposite poles in the matter of Customs are Free Trade and Protection. In pure theory the principle of Free Trade is that each people should set itself to produce that which it can produce best and put at least cost on the markets of the world. In pure theory, also, the maxim of Protection is to protect against the competition of other nations by Customs duties on entry or exit, by premiums or drawbacks, all national products, raw or manufactured. In general terms we may therefore say that Free Trade is a *régime* of liberty, of expansion and of natural association favorable to all, inasmuch as it supposes each nation to cultivate and manufacture products and articles which climate and aptitude especially favor; while Protection, aiming for special purposes to enhance the price of certain articles creates between peoples a state of things more or less artificial, favorable to some, but opposed to the general interest. It is incontestable, however, that in certain cases the application of Free Trade would be impossible. In America, for instance, *there are countries where revenue is for the most part derived from Customs, and whose Government would not live twenty-four hours after their abolition.* Free Trade is the ideal of the peacemakers, inasmuch as it makes for association and liberty; and it is in this sense that we welcome the attention paid to the question of Customs in all civilized nations, convinced that the closer the question is studied the more will the conviction come home to the peoples that artificial restrictions to international exchanges of products and manufactures are prejudicial to the well-being and the friendly association of nations.—*Etats Unis d'Europe.*

In our judgment Free Trade should, like disarmament, be gradual. To annihilate at one blow legal and vested rights under which manufactories were established and to hurry such corporations into bankruptcy would be unjust. To strike down all revenue from customs would be equally so. Progressive reciprocity is the way out.

### HOW NAVIES PROMOTE WAR.

In the recent excitement caused by the murder of eleven Italians in the Parish jail at New Orleans, certain of their countrymen in America boasted that Italy could bombard and destroy the cities of the United States by her superior navy. The spirit of revenge was rampant in them. It rejoiced in a fit instrument for a fell and bloody purpose. While these passionate people were foolish, they spoke sincerely.

Italy, in the opinion of her people, can fight the United States to revenge her supposed injuries because she has a navy! If she should do it, it would cost her one thousand times as many lives as were lost at New Orleans, and millions more dollars than her navy cost. Better to burn it! Her only possible gain (?) would be an unforgivable and rankling injury inflicted on a great and friendly nation, because a mob defied that government and committed murder for murder.